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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER  
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION

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HEADLINES

MASS APPEALS  
Ambassador Edelman: "US Expecting Support from Turkey in  
Iraq" - Hurriyet  
Richard Perle: "US Made Mistakes in Iraq" -Hurriyet  
US Ambassador Asks Support on Iraq at his Courtesy Visit to  
FM Gul - Milliyet  
Bremer: "We cannot Rebuild Iraq without Foreign Support" -  
Milliyet  
Deputy PM Sener: "US Loan not Linked to Turkish Troops"  
-Sabah  
Ubeydi Tribe Wants Turkish Soldiers Under UN Umbrella -  
Sabah  
Arrest Warrant for Kemal Uzan - Sabah

OPINION MAKERS  
HR Committee Chairman Elkatmis Warns US Delegation -  
Cumhuriyet  
Ankara's Humanitarian Aid Initiative Intended to Win Iraqis'  
Support - Zaman  
Edelman Requests Support From FM Gul on Iraq - Zaman  
Elkatmis to US Delegation: Stop Your Threats and Blackmail -  
Yeni Safak

BRIEFING

Troop Deployment: Today's papers cover the news on contacts  
between Turkish officials and leaders of Iraq's Arab Ubeydi  
tribe. Representatives of the Ubeydi tribe met yesterday  
with Deputy Undersecretary Ali Tuygan at the foreign  
ministry. "Zaman" notes that the tribe offered cooperation  
against Kurdish peshmerge militants. "Turkiye" reports that  
the tribal leaders advised the Turks not to go into Iraq  
with US forces, but rather under a UN umbrella. "Vatan"  
notes that Ankara will continue its contacts with Iraqi  
tribal leaders.

Ambassador Edelman: Most papers report on the courtesy  
visit Ambassador Edelman paid yesterday to Foreign Minister  
Gul. "Hurriyet" notes that Iraq was the top issue during  
the 50-minute meeting. Ambassador Edelman told FM Gul that  
'Turkey and the US are strategic partners, and this  
understanding will continue.' Edelman openly expressed US  
expectations about the sending of troops to Iraq. "Radikal"  
reports that at a reception at his residence yesterday,  
Ambassador Edelman was said that 'the loans offered to  
Turkey and the deployment of Turkish troops in Iraq are two  
different issues. The loan is linked to cooperation in  
general, not to a troop deployment in Iraq.'

US Public Diplomacy Advisory Group Visit: The US has begun  
to investigate its public image in Turkey and the reasons  
behind recent problems between the two countries. A  
delegation from the Public Diplomacy Advisory Group at the  
State Department visited Parliamentary Human Rights  
Commission Chairman Mehmet Elkatmis yesterday to discuss the  
issue. When asked by the delegation leader, Ambassador  
Edward Djerejian -- a former deputy secretary of state,  
about his evaluation of US policies, Elkatmis said that the  
US must change its policies if it wants to continue its

alliance with Turkey. Current US attitudes, Elkatmis added, are not in keeping with that friendship. If we are to contribute to global peace together, the US must revise its policies.'

#### EDITORIAL OPINION

##### "Weak leadership in Turkey"

Cengiz Candar noted in the mass appeal DB-Tercuman (8/28): "Glossy statements cannot hide the weak leadership and inconstancy of the Erdogan-Gul duo on Iraq. They are trying to arrive at a decision through asking the Sunni Iraqi tribal leaders who have had ambiguous relations with the former Baath regime, opinion research questions such as 'should we go to Iraq,' and 'if we do, how would you greet us?' There is no substantial difference between President Sezer and the government regarding foreign policy decisions. The President's seeking international consensus on Iraq under a UN license while the government's seeking consensus with the Sunni Arab tribal leaders. It's interesting that those who think too little of the Iraqi Kurdish leaders, almost respect a blackmailing by the Arab tribal leaders who warned that Turkish troops would be treated like Americans in Iraq. Do you think countries with a firm vision of future determine their foreign policy by asking it to Sunni Arab tribal leaders?"

##### "Wasting Turkomen for the sake of ignoring the Kurdish problem"

Koray Duzgoren argued in the Islamic/intellectual "Yeni Safak" (8/28): "U.S. has clearly assumed responsibility for the security of Northern Iraq, and told Turkey not to be concerned of KADEK anymore. . The Turkomen minority has become the sole reason for Turkey to remain in Northern Iraq. . Everybody in Northern Iraq knows that the Iraqi Turkoman Front (ITF) office in Northern Iraq is the center of Turkey's intelligence activities. U.S. troops had seized tons of explosives and arms at the ITF office in Suleymaniye. Recent incidents in Suleymaniye and Kirkuk show Turkey's decisiveness to use the Turkomen minority for its activities in the region. . Some advise that the Turkomen should be armed in the face of KDP and PUK policies. Such a 'national' policy by Turkey leaves the Turkomen a sole alternative of facing atrocities and thus leaving the region. . Turkey's interests require the Turkomen to join Iraq's rebuilding as a main element of Iraq. Turkey cannot waste the Turkomen for the sake of ignoring the Kurdish problem."

EDELMAN